

**NARRATOR :** SAFECOM in 100 seconds!

**LOWENSTEIN:** I have a dear friend back home who was among the very first in the Nebraska Highway Patrol. And when he was first on the job he would drive his patrol car and listen to the AM radio. And as he drove down the road the radio would interrupt a song and say, Badge 47, call your dispatcher. Badge 47, call your dispatcher. In his lifetime, we have gone from that to today, with trunked radio, with data in the cars, that complete change.

**NARRATOR:** Public safety communications is advancing more rapidly than ever, and helping to guide this progress is SAFECOM.

**HEWITT:** SAFECOM is a governance body which is made up of public safety and elected officials that address public safety, communications, interoperability issues nationwide.

**NARRATOR:** SAFECOM provides guidance to public safety agencies through research and by developing tools such as the Interoperability Continuum.

**HEWITT:** The SAFECOM interoperability continuum really goes to the fact that technology is only one piece of the interoperability puzzle. Governance, standard operating procedures, usage, training and exercises. Those are critical, because the technology is never usually the factor that creates us not to be able to talk to one another.

**NARRATOR:** SAFECOM also provides state and local agencies with guidance on how to apply for appropriate federal grants for their communications programs.

**SORLEY:** For local governments, public safety is job number one. And it's incumbent upon us to make sure that each dollar we spend in public safety is used to the fullest potential that it can be.

**NARRATOR:** For more information, visit us at [First Responder dot gov](http://FirstResponder.gov)!